

TESTIMONY OF COALITION OF CONNECTICUT SHELLFISHERS
RAISED BILL NO. 5307, LCO NO. 1406

February 27, 2014

Dear Senator Meyer, Representative Gentile and Members of the Environment Committee,

We are OPPOSED TO RAISED BILL NO. 5307, LCO NO. 1406, AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF BOOMS FOR THE RETENTION OF CERTAIN OILS OR PETROLEUM.

The Coalition consists of shellfish companies, most of which have shellfish beds in New Haven Harbor. Petroleum transfer operations in the harbor should continue to be boomed. As well as booming, spills should be treated with extreme care and skimmed and removed from the water.

Historically New Haven Harbor is one of the most productive shellfish beds in the state. Today this reputation still exists. Additionally, the harbor is used extensively by recreational fishermen. We strongly oppose any release of petroleum products into the harbor. Such an event would negatively impact our shellfish beds as well the marine environment in general. It would be a step backwards to darker times if this bill were passed.

We ask you to please oppose this bill and continue booming any transfers in New Haven Harbor.

THE COALITION IS OPPOSED TO RB NO. 5307, LCO NO. 1406.